

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00114 01 OF 02 011120Z

11/43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20

PC-10 IO-14 SCCT-02 NEA-10 NIC-01 DRC-01 /155 W

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R 281109Z FEB 74

FM AMEMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2507

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO SECDEF

CINCUSANVEUR

USCINCEUR

DIRNSA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ASMARA 0114

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: MILITARY MUTINY

REF: ASMARA 102, 107, 108

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF PORTION OF RADIO BROADCAST  
BY DISSIDENTS AT ASMARA NIGHT OF FEB. 26, 1974.

QTE: THIS IS FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NORTH AND THE  
ERITREA POLICE THE ABOVE MENTIONED MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL  
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT ARMED FORCES INFULL RESPECT OF THE LIVES  
AND RIGHTS OF CIVILIANS HEREBY TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE  
DIRECTED ONLY TO THE MILITARY.

1. A SOLDIER SHOULD TAKE STRICT MEASURES AGAINST AN OFFICER  
WHICH VICTIMIZES ANOTHER SOLDIER, WHO WITH GOOD INTENT STRIVES  
TO GUARD THE RIGHTS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND IMPROVE THEIR LOT.

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PAGE 02 ASMARA 00114 01 OF 02 011120Z

2. THE STARTING MONTHLY SALARY OF AN ENLISTED MAN SHOULD BE

ETH\$100. - AND THAT OF A VETERAN SOLDIER  
NOT LESS THAN ETH\$150-.

3. THE SALARY SCALE OF HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND MINISTER  
SHOULD NOT BE EXAGERATELY HIGH INSTEAD IT SHOULD BE PROPORTIONATE  
TO THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC STANDARD AND THE LIVING STANDARD OF THE  
ORDINARY CITIZEN.

FOR EXAMPLE THE ENORMOUS EXPENSES MADE FROM THE GOVERNMENT  
TREASURY FRO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SHOULD BE PAID FROM THEIR  
PRIVATE INCOME:

- A) MERCEDES CAR AND COST OF RUNNING EXPENSES
- B) HOUSE RENT
- C) HOUSE GUARD AND MAID
- D) GUESTS ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
- E) OTHER SPECIAL EXPENSES

4) AS THE MODERN ETHIOPIAN SOLDIER IS A WELL TRAINED AND PRE-  
PREPARED PERSON HE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS UNEDUCATED. HIS  
HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT LESS THAN THOSE OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND  
OFFICIALS, THUS THEY SHOULD BE PROPERLY RESPECTED.

5) THE SALARY OF A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD  
NOT BE LESS THAN ETH.\$85.00 IRRESPECTIVE OF THE LENGTH OF SERVICE.

- 6) A SOLDIER WHO SUSTAINS A) LOSS OF HIS LEG OR HAND
- B) LOSS OF EYE SIGHT
- C) MENTAL DISTURBANCE

WHILE CARRYING OUT HIS DUTY SHOULD RETIRE WITH FULL PAY. FOR  
EXAMPLE AS MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO RETIRED FOR THE  
ABOVE MENTIONED REASON RECEIVE ONLY ETH.\$30.00. THEY AND THEIR  
FAMILIES ARE LIVING IN AN ABHORRENT CONDITION.

7) FAMILY OF A SOLDIER KILLED IN ACTION SHOULD RECEIVE HIS FULL  
PAY FOR SIX MONTHS AND HALF PAY INDEFINITELY.

8) SINCE ANY RETIRED SOLDIER IS A SUPPORTER OF NUMEROUS FAMILY  
MEMBERS HE SHOULD TOGETHER WITH HIS FAMILY RECEIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION  
IN ANY GOVERNORATE GENERAL HOSPITAL UPON PRESENTATION OF AN  
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PAGE 03 ASMARA 00114 01 OF 02 011120Z

IDENTIFICATION CARD.

9) WHENEVER THE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECTS OR OTHER PROJECTS, PRIORITY FOR EMPLOYMENT SHOJLD BE  
GIVEN TO THE RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

10) THE SALARY INCREMENT OF ETH.\$18 MADE BY THE MINISTERS ON  
FEB 24, 1974 FOR THE ARMY AND POLICE, WHICH COMPARED TO THE

COUNTRY'S GNP IS SO SMALL THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE FORCES ARE DISMAYED. THEREFORE IT IS MANDATORY THAT AN INCREASE OF ADDITIONAL ETH.\$50.- BE MADE. IN ADDITION THE AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID UNDER THE HEADING "ALLOWANCE FOR FOOD" SHOULD BE PAID AS SALARY. THESE INCREASES ARE NECESSITATED BY THE CONTINUOUSLY RISING LIVING STANDARD AND THE PROBLEMS FAMILIES ARE ENCOUNTERING AS A RESULT.

11) THE HABITUAL HITHERTO PRACTICE OF GREAT DIFFERENCES IN THE RIGHTS OF AN OFFICER AND A SOLDIER SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AND THE ORDER GIVEN TO THE SOLDIER SHOULD BE IN LINE WITH THE MILITARY RULES AND HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR EXAMPLE, AS THE SOLDIER IS THE SERVANT OF THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE, HIS MILITARY HONOR SHOULD NOT BE DEGRADED AND HE SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A) GARDNER B) GATEMAN C) CAR CLEANER D) LAUNDERER IN THE HOUSEHELD OF CERTAIN HIGH RANKING OFFICERS.

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00114 02 OF 02 281538Z

41

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ASMARA 0114

12) SINCE ANY SOLDIER HAS NOT PRIVATE SOURCE OF INCOME THE SALARY AND UNIFORM, PROVIDED HIM BY THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HIM PROMPTLY. FOR EXAMPLE A) SALARY DELAYS UNTIL THE 15TH OF THE NEXT MONTH; B) CLOTHES AND KAHKI UNIFORMS WHICH SHOULD BE ISSUED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR, WITH THE PURPOSE OF CUTTING ONE YEAR SUPPLY FROM THAT OF EVERY TWO YEARS, ARE ISSUED

AT THE MIDDLE OF THE NEXT YEAR. AS A RESULT OF SUCH PRACTICE, PARTICULARLY THE FIGHTING MAN IN THE FIELD GOES RAGGED; C) PROVISION OF OVERCOATS, HITHERTO ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT AT CERTAIN INTERVALS, HAS BEEN TOTALLY DISCONTINUED. THE MOST SURPRISING THING, HOWEVER, IS THAT SINCE THE SUPPLY OF THE HEAD-COVER, OUR IDENTIFICATION AS MILITARY MEN, HAS LONG BEEN DISCONTINUED EACH SOLDIER HAS NOW STARTED TO MAKE HIS OWN OUT OF PIECES OF RAGS.

13) THE BODY OF A SOLDIER WHO DIES IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY AND PEOPLE SHOULD BE TREATED AS THAT OF AN OFFICER. WHERE IMPOSSIBLE SEND IT TO THE SOLDIER'S BIRTH PLACE AND WHERE IMPOSSIBLE BURY IT, ACCORDING TO THE RELIGIOUS PRACTICE OF THE DECEASED, IN AN AREA CLOSER TO A CHURCH OR A MOSQUE; AND NOT ABANDON IT, LIKE A DOG'S CARCAS, BURIED UNDER THE SAND.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 ASMARA 00114 02 OF 02 281538Z

14) IT HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE TO WITHHOLD THE SALARY OF A SOLDIER, WHO FOR PETTY OFFENCES IS COURT MARTIALED AND IMPRISONED, WITHOUT DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE NEEDS OF HIS FAMILY. CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT DURING SUCH TIME IT IS NOT ONLY THE SOLDIER WHO SUFFERS BUT ALSO HIS DEPENDENTS, AMENDMENT SHOULD BE MADE WHEREBY THE OFFENDER IS PUNISHED BY IMPRISONMENT.

15) THE GAP IN THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION PAID TO AN OFFICER AND A SOLDIER KILLED OR WOUNDED SIDE-BY-SIDE IN ACTION HAS BECOME ENORMOUS. FOR EXAMPLE, BRIGGEN. YILMA ALEMU, COMMANDER OF THE 2ND DIVISION, WHEN WOUNDED IN ACTION WAS SENT ABROAD FOR TREATMENT AT GREAT EXPENSES AND IN ADDITION HIM RECEIVED HIS WIFE IN AUDIENCE AND GAVE HER OVER ETH.\$10,000. BUT THE FAMILIES, MEMBERING 5-6 IN EACH, OF THE TWO NCO'S, WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AT THE SAME TIME WHEN THE GENERAL WAS WOUNDED, DUE TO THE LACK OF SUCH CARE AND CONCERN, ARE PRESENTLY FOUNDED IN A VERY SAD CONDITION.

16) DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE WEIGHT ALLOWANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS OF RETIRED NCO'S AND ENLISTED MEN IS ONLY 2 QUINTALS (440 LBS) THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO WERE UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND WHO WITH REMORSE STAYED IN THEIR PLACES OF ASSIGNMENT IS VERY HIGH. RETIRED NCO'S AND ENLISTED MEN TOGETHER WITH OTHER IN-SERVICE MEMBERS OF THE ENTIRE FORCE ARE DISHEARTENED BY THE ARRANGEMENT THAT ENABLES ONLY OFFICERS TO RETURN HOME WITH THEIR FULL BELONGINGS.

17) CADEN COURSE IS OFFERED TO 18 YEARS OLD ADULTS. THIS BEING THE CASE THEN WHY IS IT THAT AN ENLISTEDMAN, WHO WITH MARKED ABILITY REACHED THE POSITION OF A 1ST SERGEANT IS NOT ALLOWED TO JOIN THE COURSE BEFORE THE AGE OF 33 YEARS? IT SHOULD NOT BE LIKE THAT.

18) WHY IS IT THAT THE ETH.\$30, ALLOWANCE FOR TECHNICAL APTITUDE,

ESTABLISHED BY THE BRITISH INSTRUCTORS IN 1944 NOT YET CHANGED?

19) RELIEF MOVEMENT FOR MEN SERVING IN THE BATTLE FIELDS IS ESSENTIAL. IN OTHER WORDS TRANSFER ARRANGEMENT OF THOSE MEMBERS IN THE LOWLANDS TO THE HIGHLANDS AND VICE-VERSA IS NECESSARY.

20) THE RIGHT OF AN OFFICER TO DRAW MONETARY ALLOWANCE WHENEVER HE IS ON TDY IS STRICTLY RESPECTED. BUT THE SOLDIER IS SUBJECTED UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ASMARA 00114 02 OF 02 281538Z

TO LIVE ON THE DRY RATION AND EVEN FOR THAT HE IS FORCED TO PAY BACK THE COST OF THE RATION HE USES UPON RE-ENTRY IN THE CAMP. IN ADDITION BECAUSE HIS RIGHT TO COMPLAIN IS DENIED HE REMAINS HELPLESS.

21) VIEWS ABOUT MEDICAL ATTENTION :

A) WHENEVER WE GO TO THE HOSPITAL WITH OUR WIVES FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT WE ARE OFTEN TOLD, "ONLY ONE AT A TIME, YOU OR YOUR WIFE CAN BE TAKEN CARE OF." IF WE GO WITH TWO CHILDREN FOR EXAMPLE THEY TELL US TO CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO FOR TREATMENT. SINCE ILLNESS NEITHER GIVES TIME NOR ENABLES ONE TO WAIT FOR HIS TURN WE WOULD LIKE THAT A SOLDIER OR HIS DEPENDENTS RECEIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION AS REQUIRED.

B) PRIORITY FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO AN OFFICER AND HIS DEPENDENTS EVEN WHEN A SOLDIER IS WOUNDED AND BLEEDING. WHY SHOULD IT BE LIKE THAT?

22) SINCE THE COLONEL, HEAD OF THE MEDICAL CORPS HAS INTRODUCED CORRUPTIVE MEASURES THAT WEAKENS THE SERVICEMAN AND HAS INCREASED THE COST OF MEDICINE FOR HIS PERSONAL GAIN THE POOR SOLDIER AND HIS DEPENDENTS ARE SUFFERING. THUS IT IS HEREBY REQUESTED THAT HE BE REMOVED PROMPTLY FROM HIS POSITION.

23) EACH AND EVERY SOLDIER MUST DEEPLY THINK AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE IMPORTANT POINTS OUTLINED IN SERIAL NUMBER 1 TO 22 ABOVE ARE INTENDED TO BENEFIT SOCIETY AND THAT THEY ARE IN NO WAY TO BE USED AGAINST THE INTEREST OF THE NATION, HIM, AND THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE

WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SEE THE WEALTH OF OUR NATION DEVoured BY A GREEDY FEW. WE WILL FIGHT WITH OUR BLOOD SUCH MISDEEDS IN THE FUTURE. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE AFFAIRS OF THE NATION AND ITS PEOPLE :

1. ARMY
2. AIR FORCE
3. POLICE
4. NAVY

THIS BROADCAST HAS COME TO YOU FROM THE ARMED FORCES IN THE NORTH AND ERITREA POLICE FORCE. MEMBERS OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED FORCES WILL DEFEND THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE AND WILL

DETER ANY AGRESSION AGAINST THE NATIONAL INTEREST. END QUOTE

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PAGE 04 ASMARA 00114 02 OF 02 281538Z

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## Message Attributes

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